

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 SS-15  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-03 H-01 /058 W  
-----030958Z 051270 /10

R 030930Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3794  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, TW, JA  
SUBJECT: DISPUTE OVER CHINA AIR LINES USE OF JAPANESE TERMINALS

1. CHINESE CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION HAS CONFIRMED NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT TOSHIO ITAKURA, PRESIDENT OF JAPAN ASIA AIRWAYS, IS EXPECTED HERE ON OR ABOUT JUNE 8 TO DISCUSS ISSUE OF WHICH TOKYO AIRPORT AND WHICH HOURS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO CHINA AIR LINES (CAL), WITH OPENING OF NEW NARITA FACILITIES. SAME SOURCE MINIMIZED GRAVITY OF SITUATION, STATING THAT IT HAD BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED BY PRESS. CAL, HE INSISTED, HAS RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION FROM THE GOJ THAT SERVICES OF CAL WILL BE CURTAILED AT HANEDA. NOR DOES THE GROC ANTICIPATE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN ARRIVING AT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION, HE STRESSED.

2. COMMENT & BACKGROUND: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT EARLIER DIPLOMACY AND COUNTER-DIPLOMACY BY PRESS RELEASE--MOSTLY VAGUELY-ATTRIBUTED THREATS AND COUNTER-THREATS--IS ABOUT TO BE REPLACED BY SERIOUS NEGOTIATION. THE PROBLEM IS ROOTED IN PRIOR DECISION OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW CAL TO CONTINUE USING HANEDA AFTER NARITA BECOMES OPERATIONAL. THAT DECISION REFLECTS DEFERENCE TO THE WISHES OF THE PRC THAT AIRLINES OF TWO CHINESE ADMI-  
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NISTRATIONS NOT USE SAME FACILITY. HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN DISSATISFACTION EXPRESSED BY SOME OF CAL'S COMPETITORS, INASMUCH AS SHORTER COMMUTING TIME BETWEEN HANEDA AND TOKYO WOULD PRESUMABLY GIVE CAL ADVANTAGE DENIED THOSE MOVING TO NEW FACILITY. ACCORDING TO JAPANESE PRESS REPORTS CITED HERE, GOJ OFFICIALS HAVE DECIDED TO LIMIT CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION SERVICE AT HANEDA, AND CONSEQUENTLY CAL FLIGHTS, TO DAYLIGHT HOURS. SUCH A MOVE WOULD

DRASTICALLY REDUCE CAL OPERATIONS TO AND THROUGH JAPAN, AS GREAT MAJORITY OF CAL FLIGHTS REACH HANEDA DURING NIGHT HOURS. PRESS RELEASE ATTRIBUTED TO HIGH GROC OFFICIALS HAVE THREATENED RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST JAPAN ASIA AIRWAYS. THESE PURPORTED THREATS HAVE IN TURN BEEN DENIED BY THE CCAA DIRECTOR, GENERAL MAO, BUT PROBABLY ONLY AFTER ALREADY HAVING SERVED PURPOSES INTENDED BY THEIR ORIGINATORS. A SET OF ALTERNATIVE COUNTERPROPOSALS HAS ALSO BEEN SURFACED IN LOCAL PRESS, POSSIBLY AS MERE SPECULATION BUT MORE PROBABLY AS A TRIAL BALLOON. COUNTERPROPOSALS ARE: EITHER 1 MAINTAIN STATUS QUO FOR CAL AT HANEDA; OR 2) OPEN NARITA TO USE BY CAL, WITH GOJ TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEALING WITH THE EXPECTED REACTION FROM THE PRC; OR 3) IMPOSE RECIPROCAL LIMITATIONS ON JAA OPERATIONS IN TAIWAN. JAPANESE PRESS IS QUOTED LOCALLY AS FIRST ANNOUNCING JAA'S SUPPORT FOR CAL'S CONTINUED ROUND-THE-CLOCK OPERATION AT HANEDA, THEN JAA'S SWITCHING TO SUPPORT FOR ALTERNATIVE TWO CAL'S MOVE TO NARITA. SOME LOCAL COMMENTATORS VIEW SERIES OF MOVES BY GOJ AND/OR JAA AS MEANS OF ELIMINATING COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE CAL WOULD OTHERWISE GAIN. HOWEVER, THE MOST RECENTLY-QUOTED COMMENTS OF JAA AND GROC SPOKESMEN, TOGETHER WITH HIGHLY PROBABLY FORTHCOMING MEETING BETWEEN HEADS OF TWO AIRLINES, STRONGLY INDICATE THAT ISSUES ARE NEGOTIABLE AND THAT NEITHER SIDE DESIRES TO CUT OFF ECONOMIC NOSE TO SAVE POLITICAL FACE A SECOND TIME.

3. POST WOULD WELCOME COMMENTS FROM TOKYO.  
UNGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DISPUTE OVER CHINA AIR LINES USE OF JAPANESE TERMINALS  
**TAGS:** EAIR, TW, JA, CHINA AIRLINES  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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